



TO all Masters, VVardens and Alsistants, together with all men rich and poore that desire by a certaine easie cheape way to ease a present, and prevent a future losse by Farthing tokens. Consider I beseech you all that desire for your selves and posterities to prevent a great losse and dammage, which if not timely prevented, will of necessity acrew by farthing tokens above said, to the great dammage of many, yea even all Trades-men in the Kingdome, whereof many have beene deeply sensible heretofore, the which being in themselves very usefull for necessary exchange of money, where it cannot otherwise be changed, according to the gracious intent of his Majesty, his late Father, and Councell, manifested by their severall Proclamations, wherein they alwayes made it appeare to their loyall subjects, that they intended nothing but their ease and benefit therein, and therefore put in their Proclamations this clause, namely, Not that our loyall or loving Subjects should take them as coyne or payment in greater or smaller sums, but as tokens for present exchange of money where otherwise it could not be changed, for which they were and are very necessary and usefull, but as a little fire and water are very necessary and usefull relievers, yer ovet much of either become cruell destroyers, even so doth the great encrease of tokens, a few being usefull, do to your trades, as you or your posterity before many yeares passe must needs finde; for by relation there are ordinarily made at this time about eighty foure pounds worth in a day, which is in a weeke five hundred and foure pounds, which is twenty six thousand two hundred ninety two pounds in the yeare, all which for the value of the matter of them are not worth three thousand pounds, so that the losse will be unavoidably above three and twenty thousand pounds a yeare after this rate; then consider I beseech you, how that sooner or later of necessity the course of the encrease of them must be stopped, the which every day being delayed doe produce to the encrease of them, after the rate aforesaid 84. pounds: And seeing his Majesty, nor Parliament cannot any way stop the abuse by them, but that of necessity they must take off the engagement of the Pattentees, whereby they can no longer stand engaged to take them in then they enjoy their Pattent to put them out; and seeing neither his Majesty nor Parliament did ever by any Statute or Proclamation enjoine any subjects to take them, but according to their own good liking, for their ease and benefit, and no farther. Consider, I beseech you, if it be not altogether improper, to petition either King or Parliament for ease, of a grievance never imposed upon us by either of them; truly if you consider it, it is all one as if wee should sell our commodities for Nut shells, and then petition to them to ease our grievance. Now therefore seeing any thing that is good for any Trade or Company, that doe neither go against a Statute or Proclamation, is lawfull for any Company amongst themselves to enjoine under a penalty, and seeing this is onely proper to them to doe without losse to themselves and posterity, and for their great gaine in future times; how commendable wil the practise be of them that shal first set upon the easing such a grievance? and how thankfully will all other Companies follow their good example, wherein all both rich and poore generally shall have benefit, and none loose but the Prjector and his Master the Patentee, and his Chapmen that live upon the unlawfull gaine they get by the Kingdomes losse; yea how thankfully will thousands thinke of you every weeke, remembring they were wont to loose .1. 2. 3. 4. 5. shil a weeke by tokens more or lesse.

And yet once more your poore servant the Author beseecheth you to consider, that either now or hereafter it must come to this or worse, else in time it will come to this passe, it will be said Englands silver is turned into copper, their pounds into lesse then halfe crowns, their shillings into lesse then pence; thus intreating you not to be offended, that whilst your thoughts are taken up about things of much greater consequence he should minde you of this being small as farthing tokens, which the other of greater moment have kept you from minding or remembring; thus I commit you to God. T.N.

WE E therefore whose names are hereafter written, considering the truth and reality of that above specified, do promise under our hands, that if the mager part of our Trade in London, Westminster, with the Liberties and Suburbs will doe the like, we will take this course following, viz. We will take no tokens in the name of money or coyne, of lesse quantity then five pence, which is 21. tokens, or ten pence which is 42. tokens, that so it may be without losse to buyer or seller, which otherwise cannot be, but onely under the name of tokens, as also we will offer to no man any otherwise, that is to say, seeing they are delivered from the token house 21. for 20. the which they by their Patent can justifie, whereby also they are bound to take them in at the same rate, which Authority can no way alter without taking off their engagement to take them in, therefore seeing they will not come to our rates for feare of deminishing their extorting unjust gaine, we will come to theirs, although with a little trouble, to ease our present and prevent our future losse, which will no way else be avoided, therefore the sums above written, we will take 21. for 5.d. 42. for 10.d. 63. for 15.d. 84. for 20.d. and so on 21. for 20. and any lesser sums we will not take by the name of halfe penny, penny, two pence, money or coine, for so we doe not onely lose the twentieth part of a penny, but also encourage and maintain the Presses going to encrease the same, therefore we will owne no tokens under any other name but tokens under 5.d. which is 21. tokens, as you may farther see in a little book of one sheet made by the Author hereof; and therefore whoso shall aske for a pennie worth of ware or any coine shall pay us with coine not with tokens, but if they have none but tokens, let them aske for it under the name of tokens for which they may have just waights, measure or tale accordinglie just to the rate of tokens, that so neither buyer nor seller may lose.